PO 101 Discussion Board Reflection Paper (25 Points)

After the final discussion board concludes on **March 27**, you will review your two discussion forum experiences with a **reflection** paper (worth 25 points; a **minimum of 300 words**) in which you answer questions such as the following (**feel free to answer only some of these questions, or expand to other topics**):

- What did you learn about American politics from the discussion board assignments?
- Did the conversations affect your own political views? If so, how?
- How satisfied were you with the outcomes of the discussions? Why is that?
- To what extent did you practice political civility in your discussion board conversations?
- To what extent did you apply Dr. Black's book to your discussion board conversations? How did you practice the principles in *Honoring God*, or why didn't you implement them?
- What evidence shaped your answers to the questions in the previous four bullet points? Please refer to specific discussion boards in writing your paper. Here are some ideas:
    - A quote from yourself or a fellow student that complied with or violated the guidelines in Dr. Black's book
    - A summary of a thread to which you contributed (perhaps one that you were particularly satisfied with the outcome of the discussion)
    - A particular comment from a fellow student that confirmed your own views or helped you to understand another point of view
    - An emotionally powerful reaction that you had to another student's post (whether you replied on Brightspace or just thought about it)
    - An emotionally powerful reaction of another student to one of your posts.

The paper will be due on **April 24** (Assignments tab item: "Reflection Paper: Word File or PDF"). If you are on topic, write at least 300 words, avoid academic integrity violations (e.g., borrowing another student's paper or using artificial intelligence to write or edit your paper), and visit the Write Here Center (WHC) in the building next to the dining hall, you will receive the full 25 points (i.e., **100%**). An off-topic paper, a paper with fewer than 300 words, or a paper that has not been reviewed at the WHC will receive 12.5 of 25 points; late papers will receive a deduction of 2.5 points for the first 48 hours late and a deduction of 5 points thereafter. Please see the syllabus for the academic integrity policy.

To encourage the development of **writing skills (Student Learning Goal #4)**, you will take a preliminary copy of the paper to one of the student

readers at the WHC. You should have sufficient time to visit the WHC, as there will be **four weeks** between the conclusion of the second discussion board and the due date for the reflection paper on **April 24**.[1] Please upload a photo of your WHC-stamped paper to the Assignments tab ("WHC Photo: Reflection Paper").

You thus will have two Assignments tab submissions for the reflection paper: one for the full paper as a Word file or PDF (no stamp) and another for the photo of the WHC-stamped paper.

Here are hours for the WHC: Mondays through Thursdays from 3:00–5:00 p.m. and 6:00–10:00 p.m. and Sundays from 6:00–8:00 p.m.

I welcome questions about your paper.

[1] If you are a commuter student who works full time, I will function as a proxy Write Here Center reader **if** you e-mail a preliminary paper to me at least 48 hours before the reflection paper deadline.